



NEWS

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**For Immediate Release
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Contact: Ralph Borrmann 415.749.4791

Public Comment Period Begins

Rhodia, Inc. Gets Preliminary OK for Title V Permit

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has made a preliminary decision to grant a Title V permit to Rhodia Inc. located at 100 Mococo Road in Martinez. Rhodia Inc. manufactures sulfuric acid and other by-products. This begins a 30-day public comment period that will end on May 17, 2002. During this time, any member of the public may comment on any aspect of the proposed permit. "We want to encourage members of the public to contact us to obtain a copy of the permit, and other information related to the facility," said Ellen Garvey, the Air District's Air Pollution Control Officer.

What is Title V?

Title V is part of the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act, and requires all state and local governments to develop and implement operating permits for all major pollution emitting facilities. The EPA oversees these permit programs and the Air District is charged with implementing them in the Bay Area, in accordance with Federal guidelines.

Title V is intended to clarify the complex air quality permitting process by consolidating the multitude of federal, state, and local air pollution control regulations into one summary operating permit that covers all aspects of a facility's year-to-year air pollution activities. The Title V operating permit program is implemented under Air District Regulation 2, Rule 6.

Public comment is important to the Title V process. A final decision will incorporate consideration of public comments on the proposal.

Copies of the proposed permit and a copy of Air District regulations are available on the District's website at www.baaqmd.gov. To obtain a hard copy of the permit, call the District's Public Information Office at (415) 749-4900 or make a written request to:

BAAQMD
Att: Title V Permit Request
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

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